

Appln. Serial No. 10/056,880
Amendment Dated December 6, 2007
Reply to Office Action Mailed September 11, 2007

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (Cancelled)
- 1 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 27, wherein selecting the join
2 path comprises applying the function on one of the first and second tables associated with a
3 lower cost.
- 1 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 26, wherein determining the
2 costs comprises determining the respective cardinalities of the first and second tables.
- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein determining the cost of applying the
2 function on the second table comprises determining the cost of a join table that is a result of a
3 join of the first table and another table.
- 1 5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein selecting the join path comprises
2 applying the function on one of the first and second tables that has the lower cardinality.
- 1 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the function comprises a selection
2 predicate applied on a complex attribute of the first table, the join query further containing a
3 projection applied on a complex attribute of the first table, the method further comprising:
4 determining a cost associated with applying the projection on the first table and a
5 cost associated with applying the projection on the join table,
6 wherein selecting the join path comprises applying the projection on one of the
7 first table and the join table associated with a lower cost.
- 1 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein selecting the join path comprises
2 applying the projection on one of the first table and join table with the lower cardinality.

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1 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 26, further comprising
2 identifying the function as a costly function.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 26, wherein the receiving,
2 determining, and selecting acts are performed by [[an]] the optimizer module.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 27, wherein determining the
2 costs of applying the function on the first and second tables comprises determining the costs of
3 applying the function on object relational tables.

1 11. (Previously Presented) An article comprising at least one storage medium
2 containing instructions that when executed cause a database system to:
3 receive a join query containing at least one function selected from the group
4 consisting of a selection predicate applied on a complex attribute, a projection applied on a
5 complex attribute, and a user-defined data type method, the join query specifying a join of a first
6 table and a second table to produce a join table; and
7 determine a join path for the join query based at least in part on a cost associated
8 with application of the function,
9 wherein determining the join path comprises selecting the join path in which the
10 function is applied on the join table rather than the first table or second table to reduce cost.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 11, wherein the join query specifies
2 the function being applied on the first table, and wherein the instructions when executed cause
3 the database system to determine the join path in which the function is applied on the join table.

1 13. – 15. (Cancelled)

1 16. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 11, wherein the instructions when
2 executed cause the system to determine the join path by further specifying a join of the join table
3 and a third table to produce a fourth table.

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1 17. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 16, wherein the join query further
2 specifies application of a second function selected from the group consisting a selection
3 predicate applied on a complex attribute, a projection applied on a complex attribute, and a user-
4 defined data type method, the second function being applied on a third table,
5 wherein the instructions when executed cause the database system to determine
6 the join path by further applying the second function on one of the third table and the fourth table
7 with a lower cardinality.

1 18. – 20. (Cancelled)

1 21. (Currently Amended) ~~The database system of claim 20, A database system~~
2 comprising:
3 a storage system to store tables; and
4 an optimizer to receive a join query that specifies a function selected from the
5 group consisting of a selection predicate applied on a complex attribute, a projection applied on a
6 complex attribute, and a user-defined data type method,
7 the optimizer to select a join plan based at least in part on a comparison of a first
8 cost of applying the function on a first table and a second cost of applying the function on a
9 second table, wherein the optimizer is to select the join plan that applies the function on the one
10 of the first table and second table with a lower cardinality, wherein the second table is a join
11 result of the first table and another table,
12 wherein the join query specifies the function being applied on the first table, and
13 the optimizer to apply the function on the second table rather than the first table in response to
14 determining the second cost is lower than the first cost.

1 22. (Currently Amended) The database system of claim [[20]] 21, wherein the first
2 and second tables are object relational tables.

1 23. – 24. (Cancelled)

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1 25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 26, wherein the second table
2 contains a result of a join between the first table and another table,
3 wherein selecting the join path comprises selecting a join path in which at least
4 one of selection and projection is applied on the second table rather than the first table, the
5 method further comprising:
6 receiving a second query specifying a join of the first table and another table, the
7 second query specifying at least one of a selection predicate applied on a non-complex attribute
8 and a projection applied on a non-complex attribute; and
9 selecting another join path for the second query in which selection or projection is
10 applied on the first table before performing a join of the first table with the another table.

1 26. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, further comprising:~~ A method of
2 performing a join in a database system comprising:
3 receiving a join query containing at least one function selected from the group
4 consisting of a selection predicate applied on a complex attribute, a projection applied on a
5 complex attribute, and a user-defined data type method;
6 determining a cost associated with applying the function on a first table and a cost
7 associated with applying the function on a second table;
8 selecting a join path based on relative costs of applying the function on the first
9 and second tables; and
10 an optimizer module performing N-lookahead join planning in which costs for
11 different combinations of joins of N+2 tables are determined, where N is greater than or equal to
12 one.

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1 27. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method of performing a join in a
2 database system comprising:

3 receiving a join query containing at least one function selected from the group
4 consisting of a selection predicate applied on a complex attribute, a projection applied on a
5 complex attribute, and a user-defined data type method;

6 determining a cost associated with applying the function on a first table and a cost
7 associated with applying the function on a second table; and

8 selecting a join path based on relative costs of applying the function on the first
9 and second tables, and

10 wherein the query specifies application of the function on the first table,
11 wherein selecting the join path comprises selecting the join path in which the
12 function is applied on the second table, the second table containing a join result of a join of the
13 first table and another table.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 11, wherein the instructions when
2 executed cause the database system to:

3 receive a second query specifying a join of the first table and another table, the
4 second query specifying at least one of a selection predicate applied on a non-complex attribute
5 and a projection applied on a non-complex attribute; and

6 select another join path for the second query in which selection or projection is
7 applied on one of the first and second tables before performing a join of the first table with the
8 second table.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 11, wherein the instructions when
2 executed cause the database system to:

3 perform N-lookahead join planning in which costs for different combinations of
4 joins of N+2 tables are determined, where N is greater than or equal to one.

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1 30. (Previously Presented) The database system of claim 21, wherein the optimizer is
2 to:

3 receive a second query specifying a join of the first table and the another table, the
4 second query specifying at least one of a selection predicate applied on a non-complex attribute
5 and a projection applied on a non-complex attribute,

6 select another join path for the second query in which selection or projection is
7 applied on the first table before performing a join of the first table with the another table.

1 31. (Currently Amended) ~~The database system of claim 18,~~ A database system
2 comprising:

3 a storage system to store tables; and

4 an optimizer to receive a join query that specifies a function selected from the
5 group consisting of a selection predicate applied on a complex attribute, a projection applied on a
6 complex attribute, and a user-defined data type method.

7 the optimizer to select a join plan based at least in part on a comparison of a first
8 cost of applying the function on a first table and a second cost of applying the function on a
9 second table.

10 wherein the optimizer is to perform N-lookahead join planning in which costs for
11 different combinations of joins of N+2 tables are determined, where N is greater than or equal to
12 one.

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1 32. (Previously Presented) A method of performing a join in a database system,
2 comprising:
3 receiving a join query specifying a join of a first table and a second table and
4 containing at least one of a selection predicate and a projection;
5 selecting a join path for the join query in response to determining whether the at
6 least one of the selection predicate and projection is applied on a complex attribute,
7 wherein a first join path is selected in which the at least one of the selection
8 predicate and projection is applied on a join table in response to determining that the at least one
9 of the selection predicate and projection is applied on a complex attribute, the join table
10 containing a join result of the first and second tables, and
11 wherein a second join path is selected in which the at least one of the selection
12 predicate and projection is applied on the first table before the join in response to determining
13 that the at least one of the selection predicate and the projection is applied on a non-complex
14 attribute.